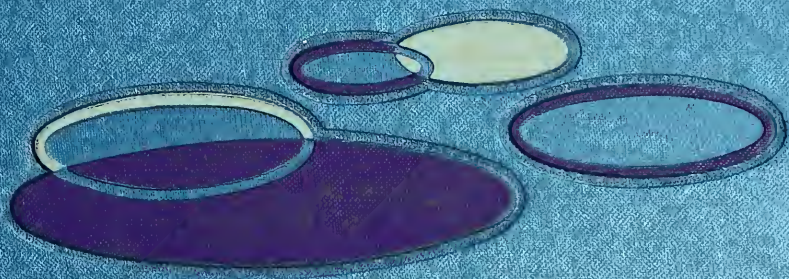


MERCIAN



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Mount Mercy Academy

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Presents the

1961 MERCIAN

Sharon Schindler, Editor
Dianne Brown, Literary Editor
Kathleen Tobin, Art Editor





An impressive structure meets the eyes of all who come to see Mount Mercy Academy. In the fall the crisp golden leaves form decorative ornaments for her grounds. Winter finds Mount Mercy covered with a soft snow blanket. In spring, birds harbored within the many trees burst forth in joyful melodies. The green grass of her rolling lawns glistens in the summer sunlight. The seasons only help to magnify Mount Mercy's beauty.





Flowing Reflections

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Our Fleeting Song

Reaching fingers gently skim the surface,
Sparkling, cool droplets trickle down.
Fleeting song holds the briefest touch of memory.

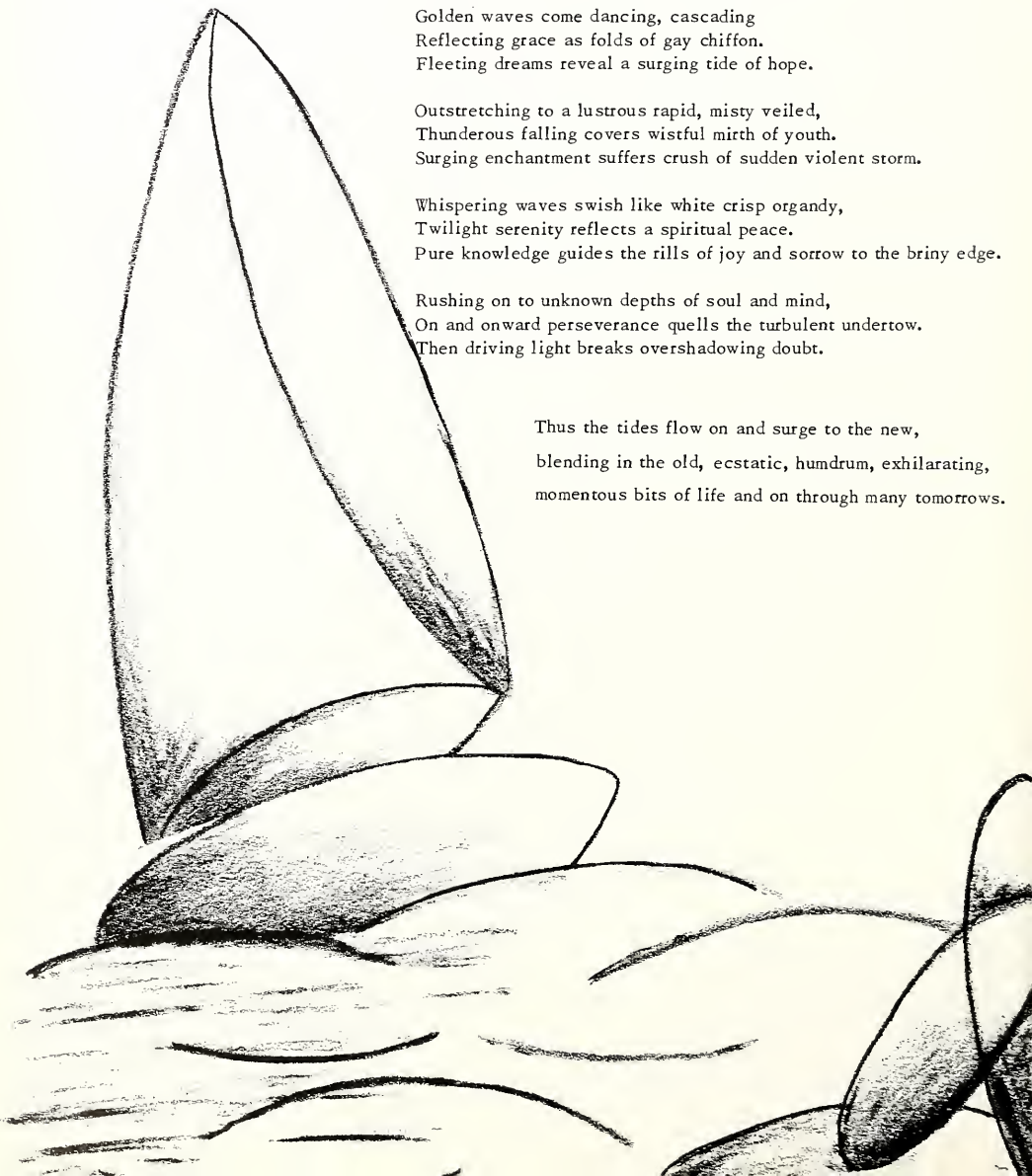
Golden waves come dancing, cascading
Reflecting grace as folds of gay chiffon.
Fleeting dreams reveal a surging tide of hope.

Outstretching to a lustrous rapid, misty veiled,
Thunderous falling covers wistful mirth of youth.
Surging enchantment suffers crush of sudden violent storm.

Whispering waves swish like white crisp organdy,
Twilight serenity reflects a spiritual peace.
Pure knowledge guides the rills of joy and sorrow to the briny edge.

Rushing on to unknown depths of soul and mind,
On and onward perseverance quells the turbulent undertow.
Then driving light breaks overshadowing doubt.

Thus the tides flow on and surge to the new,
blending in the old, ecstatic, humdrum, exhilarating,
momentous bits of life and on through many tomorrows.



We Dedicate . . .



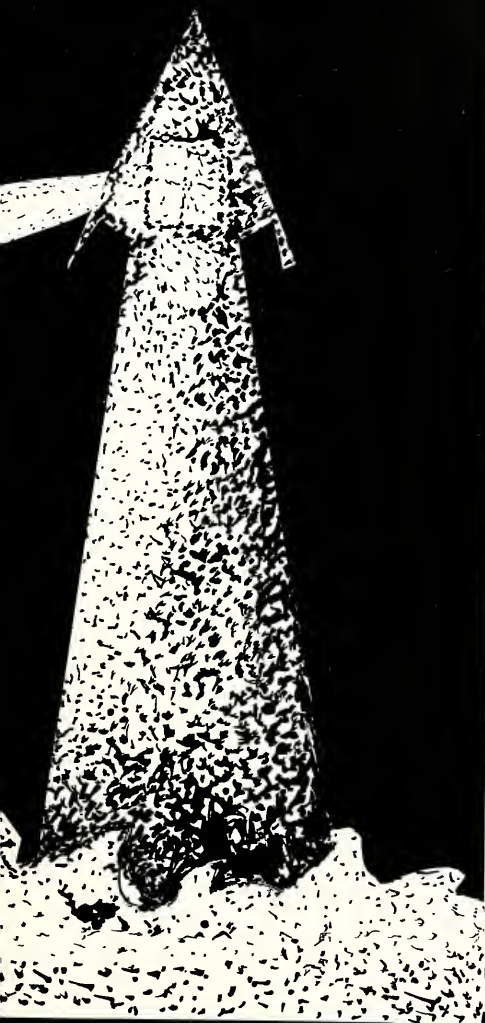
To Doctor Thomas A. Dooley, man extraordinary-
a shining example of self-sacrifice
to America's youth,
a doctor of deepest dedication above and
beyond duty's call,
a truly Catholic leader amidst today's
troubled times.

We, the seniors of 1961 with great admiration, proudly dedicate
our Mercian to you,
praying that God may always be with you in your
wonderful work for
humanity and for God.

On January 19, 1961, Dr. Dooley gave his fruitful life to God
in death. Mercians pray that his soul soon found complete
Love in the vision of God.



FACULTY



Pure knowledge guides the rills of joy
and sorrow to the briny edge.

Fountains of Intellectual Strength

A familiar face to many who have never ventured inside Mount Mercy's portals is that of our beloved chaplain, Reverend Hugh Michael Beahan. Not only may we claim him as our spiritual director and religion instructor, but he has become famous and well-loved by many through his "Fifteen with Father" television program and his very popular "Father Michael's Music Room" radio show. He projects his electric personality and enlivens within us the spirit which may truly be called Mercian.

Dear Graduates,

One of the words we often use for graduation is the big word "matriculation". If you want to be polysyllabic about it you can put your nose in the air and say "I matriculated at Mount Mercy Academy." Strangely enough, this word, like graduation itself, means not an end but a beginning. It comes from a root word which has to do with being listed in the public rolls. With graduation you, in a way, become part of the list of public register. You "go out into the world", as they say in all the graduation speeches. When you "register" with the world, remember you bear the stamp of twelve years of hope and prayers from your parents, your school and Mt. Mercy Academy. We hope and pray that you will bear that stamp with pride and great care.

Hugh M. Beahan



Reverend Hugh Michael Beahan

Sister Mary Constance, R.S.M.



The word "dedication" completely describes Sister Mary Constance, R.S.M. Through her tireless efforts during the past five years as principal, she has greatly improved the facilities of Mount Mercy Academy. As the word suggests, Sister finds time for everyone in her busy schedule as teacher, advisor, and guide. Truly she has made and continues to make Mount Mercy flower in the minds and hearts of all who have seen her.

My Dear Graduates,

Congratulations to you on having finished an important phase of your education. Gone are the study halls, silence in corridors, demerit slips, and all the other unpleasant things. New experiences are waiting to test your strength of character, the depth and firmness of your faith, and your use of the spiritual weapons which your school instills within you. That God will give you the stamina, courage, and the grace to undergo the tests successfully is the prayer of your teachers as you leave your beloved Mount Mercy.

Sister Mary Constance, R.S.M.

Faculty of Understanding

Excellent character, high goals, firm morals, all are deepened and cultivated by a devoted faculty. Devotion forms the lifeline of Mount Mercy's educators. Their reward is not material; it is not in the present; it comes with the joy and contentment of former students, now young mothers, capable teachers, or aspiring religious. The graduates are the faculty's reward for their unrelenting work; their success is up to the students.



Checking the school files for vital statistics on incoming freshmen are Sister Mary Loyola and Sister Mary Albertina.



Poised, charming, and unassuming, our study hall instructor, Mrs. Frances Kirkwood, presents a shining example to all the students.



Sister Mary Stephen, former librarian, and Sister Mary Beata, present librarian, enjoy a new science reference volume recently added to the large collection found in the Mercian Library.



Mr. H. Newcomer, a new addition to the faculty, makes studying physical sciences both fascinating and worthwhile.



Sister Mary Placide and Sister Mary Rachelle confer on the measurements for the new stage curtains in Mount Mercy's Little Theatre.



Sister Mary Pascal looks approvingly on one of Sister Mary Alphonse's many floral arrangements that decorate Mount Mercy.



Sister Mary Immaculate can often be found patiently correcting students' English papers in the seclusion of the library.



The music department fosters outstanding Mercian talent under Sister Mary Vincent.



While relaxing after a day of physical education instructing, Mrs. Theodore H. Segar displays some of her musical ability.



Observing their progress, Sister Mary Evarista tends to one of the biology department's healthy plants.

In conjunction with the instruction of her many classes, Sister Mary Consilium refers to a current news article in the daily newspaper.



Reverend Hugh M. Beahan
Chaplain, Religion, Spiritual
Counselor

Sister Mary Constance, R.S.M.
Principal, Geometry,
Religion, Trigonometry,
Senior Homeroom Teacher

Sister Mary Albertina, R.S.M.
Religion, Music, Freshman
Homeroom Teacher

Sister Mary Alphonse, R.S.M.
English, Latin, Religion,
Publications Adviser,
Junior Homeroom Teacher

Sister Mary Annunciata, R.S.M.
American Government, United
States History, Sociology

Sister Mary Beata, R.S.M.
Librarian

Sister Mary Consilium, R.S.M.
English, Modern History,
Journalism, Study Hall
Teacher, Junior Homeroom
Teacher

Sister Mary Evarista, R.S.M.
Biology

Sister Mary Immaculate, R.S.M.
English, Study Hall Teacher

Sister Mary Inez, R.S.M.
World History

Sister Mary Jerome, R.S.M.
Study Hall Teacher

Mrs. Donald Kirkwood
Study Hall Teacher

Sister Mary Loyola, R.S.M.
English, Home Economics,
Freshman Homeroom Teacher

Mr. Homer Newcomer
Chemistry, Physics

Sister Mary Paschal, R.S.M.
Art, Religion, Sophomore
Homeroom Teacher

Sister Mary Placide, R.S.M.
Business Manager, Commer-
cial, Senior Homeroom
Teacher

Sister Mary Rachelle, R.S.M.
Speech, Latin, English,
Sophomore Homeroom Teacher,
Sodality Moderator

Sister Mary Roch, R.S.M.
Algebra, French

Theodora Hunt Segar
Physical Education

Sister Mary Vincent, R.S.M.
Piano, Voice Culture, Glee Club

Aides to Education



The chauffeurs, maintenance men, custodians, men indispensable to the operation of Mount Mercy are Mr. Theodore Scheidel, Mr. Lewis Scheidel, Mr. James Peruchietti, and Mr. Adolph Mikulenas.



Helpful dietary assistants, Mrs. John Weber and Mrs. Cassie Pasikowski, wait for hungry students to arrive in the cafeteria.



Sister Mary Claver and the kitchen aides, Miss Ruth Smith, Mrs. LaVerne Wells and Mrs. George Bunn join in the expert practice of culinary art.

Mrs. Ethel Simmons and Mrs. Stephanie Pylypczuk look up from a busy day's schedule in Mount Mercy's dietary department.



The clear and cheerful voice of Mrs. Katherine Seymour echoes throughout Mount Mercy's corridors as she pages some one over the public address system.

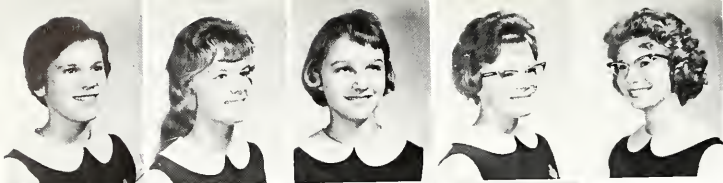




FRESHMIEN

Reaching fingers gently skim the surface,
Sparkling, cool droplets trickle down.





Marilyn Alt
Valerie Anthor
Mary Ansgore
Theresa Augustyn
Esther Baranowski



Margaret Barr
Janice Barszewski
Eileen Bernott
Mary Bianchi

Patricia Dauksza



Freshmen of 1961

Cynthia Braun
Phyllis Bogaski
Virginia Burghduff

Kathleen Dempsey
Mary Dobke



Margaret Camling
Marlaine Christoff

Sandra Dodge
Marcia Doyle
Sandra Duba



Geraldine Czarnopys

Suzanne Fix
Janice Gabert
Donna Gilewski
Margaret Gilmet



Kathleen Gorney
Catherine Graham
Josephine Guerteri
Ann Hardy
Margaret Hare

Joyce Ingersoll
Dorothy Janiszewski
Rosalind Jackson
Karen Jannereth
Theresa Johnson
Chari Johnston



Effervescence Filled With Rippling Laughter



Catherine Jost



Nancy Kasprzak
Susan Kettle



Rosemary Kirkwood
Sandra Kiss
Nancy Kline



Diane Kolenda
Jean Koryto
Susan Kozak
Margaret Krieger



Joyce Kuhlman
Lucy Kuslikis
Margaret Ladner
Charlotte Larson
Deanne Link



Janet Link
Kathleen Lyons
Marcia Majewski
Regina Martinaitis
Carol Mason
Patricia McDonald



Diane Rollins, freshman class secretary presents the minutes of a previous meeting to officers Mary Bianchi, treasurer; Kathleen Smith, vice-president; and Catherine Sanzi, president.

Class of 1964



Echoes of delighted laughter fill Alumnae Hall as the seniors entertain their "little sisters" with a volley ball relay, at the Senior-Freshman Mixer.

Joanne Mester



Diane Mlynarchek
Patricia Morris



Judith O'Berry
Gwendlyn Otterbacher
Pamela Orlowski



Judith Paczkowski
Carol Patrick
Patricia Patterson
Victoria Peck



Barbara Popma
Nancy Potyra
Louise Preston
Mary Prezkop
Margaret Priest



Martha Prusak
Rosemary Prak
Elaine Razmus
Laura Roest
Diane Rollins
Catherine Sanzi



Rosemary Schatner
Margaret Schmidt
Barbara Schulte
Elaine Schumacher
Angela Sicilia



Pamela Sleziak
Kathleen Smit
Carol Smith
Kathleen Smith



Rita Swierbut



Patricia Smith
Harriet Somers
Mary Stander



Carol Szorko
Carol Szubinski



Susan Stapleton
Leanne Stevens



Judith Thome
Ellen Troost
Jacolyn Thurston



Suzanne Stroh



Sara Van Fossen
Jean VanOeffelen
Judith Viventi
Eleanor Wittmann



Marcia Wysocki
Anna Mae Zahm
Susan Zdanciewicz
Marlene Zerbst
Brooke Zickus



Freshmen Endeavor . . .



Finding a quotation from St. John's gospel in their Bibles, Barbara Popma, Judith Thome, Susan Kozak, and Patricia Patterson, prepare the daily assignment in freshman religion.



Marsha Doyle, Laura Roest, Sister Mary Alphonse, Carol Patrick, and Barbara Schulte glance with interest through their first year Latin notebooks.



Margaret Priest, Janice Barszewski, Gwendolyn Otterbacher, and Margaret Schmidt industriously search for similarities in the Latin and English language.

to Further Their Knowledge



A lively discussion from an article in *World Week* led by Jacolyn Thurston interests Mary

Bianchi, Judith Paczkowski, Catherine Graham, and Catherine Jost.



Theresa Augustyn discusses the world leaders with Susan Stapelton and Mary Jane Anson in freshman World History class.

Singing Hearts Reflect God



Members of Sister Mary Vincent's Freshman Glee Club prepare to become a vital part of the daily Mass by practicing the Offertory Hymns.

When a student enters Mount Mercy, her talents are considered and developed through the extensive curricula offered to freshmen. The beauty and majesty of music and song is instilled early in the hearts of the Glee Club Members. Under the capable direction of Sister Mary Vincent, girls learn to combine their individual talents into one resounding melodious choir.



Freshman student conductor, Eileen Bernott, leads a segment of the Freshmen Glee Club in a Gregorian Chant.



Comprehensive Subjects Foster Keen Wit



Mary Beth Stander, first year Algebra student, demonstrates the principle of the lever, $l_1w_1 = l_2w_2$, to her classmates, Cynthia Braun, and Theresa Johnson.

Through a wide diversity of subjects, the mind must be trained in awareness and keenness; the senses must be sharpened. Common words and phrases soon acquire grammatical meanings; the works of great authors inspire self-determination and perseverance; a subject becomes part of a student. Preparing the mind for future work, freshmen learn and relearn algebraic equations, assisting minds to learn patterns and discover solutions.



Sister Mary Immaculare instructs Judith Viventi, freshman English student, in the study of Charles Dickens' novel GREAT EXPECTATIONS.



SOPHOMORES

Fleeting dreams reveal a surging tide of hope.



Bubbling Mirth Cascades



The sophomores have elected as secretary, Lauren Miller; president, Doralie Ruczynski; treasurer, Diane Base; vice-president, Alice Czarnopys to be their capable governing unit this year.



Bonnie Arends
Mary Jo Alt



Susan Alt
Mary Baker



Sandra Banka
Diane Base
Mary Jeanne Bentley



Susan Bizio
Donna Ann Blake
Karen Bogush
Mary Boonstra



Mary Budnick
Christine Buege
Charlotte Carter
Judith Carter
Ruthanne Cebelak



Geraldine Centers
Carol Conway
Alice Czarnopys
Kathleen Diskey
Mary Doorenbos
Pamela Dunneback



Charla Emery
Margaret Erhardt
Juliann Faucz
Kathleen Felicioni
Kathleen Ford
Carol Francis



Shirley Gedris
Sharon Gerke
Diane Gilbert
Jean Gogulski
Janice Gorecki



Phyllis Grzeczka
Jacqueline Heitz
Gloria Hodyna
Kathleen Hofmann

Geraldine Johnson



Rosemary Hoogterp
Susan Hornberger
Patricia Horter

Constance Kawka
Mary King



Barbara Hudson
Jean Ignasiak

Veronica King
Joan Krzewski
Mary Lamoreaux



Sophomores of 1961

Karen Jarmolinski

Michelle Leonard
Rosalie Lewis
Catherine McCall
Lauren Miller



Sharon Mungerson
Carol Nanzer
Mary Novakowski
Christine O'Connor
Suzanne Ollis





Mary O'Neill
Jan Overmire
Linda Paganelli
Mary Phillips
Patricia Raap
Sheryl Rademacher



Carol Renis
Dorlaie Ruczynski
Margaret Ruth
Shirley Rzy
Ann Sandusky



Sharon Sienko
Susan Suchowolec
Christine Swierbut
Jane Thiefels



Therese Tomaszek
Frances Vienti
Marsha Whitman



Teryl Witucki
Geraldine Wood



Donna Zamierowski

Class of 1963



Sophomores Mary Boonstra, Diane Base, Judith Carter, and Christine Swierbut attain further biological information upon their visit to the Chemistry Lab of St. Mary's Hospital.

Lofty Goals Challenge Intellects

In the second year of their education, sophomores delve deeper into the fields of mathematics, Latin, and home economics. They find mysteries of geometry made clear to them. Caesar's adventures unfold before the eyes of the diligent students of second year Latin. Proper methods of applying sewing techniques become apparent through home economics in Clothing I.



Representing the Roman ancients, Mary Louise Novakoski and Charla Emery teach sophomore Latin students, Michelle Leonard, Susan Suchowolec, Diane Base, and Phyllis Grzeczka about their civilization through their literature.



In explaining the intricacies of Plain Geometry, Therese Tomaszek illustrates a parallelogram for her classmates.



Barbara Hudson demonstrates the proper way of threading the new sewing machine to Linda Paganelli and Geraldine Johnson.

Advancement Through Action

The study of the lower forms of plant life, as explained by Sister Mary Evarista, captures the full attention of the sophomore biology class members, Susan Bizio, Mary Lynn Baker, Sandra Banka, Juliann Faucez, Kathleen Diskey, Geraldine Centers, and Donna Blake.



Janice Gorecki points out an interesting aquatic specimen studied in class while Karen Jamolinski and Mary Lynn Baker look on.



Sophomores Carol Nanzer, Jean Gogulski, Sheryl Rademaker, Jan Overmire, Donna Zamierowski, under the direction of Sister Mary Loyola present the "Potatoes Dance" by Vachel Lindsay.

Precision and Logic Produce Progress for Tomorrow



Susan Alt, sophomore art student, examines a new edition to the Art Class Collection of student hand-carved soap sculptures.

During Sophomore Religion Class Kathleen Ford explains the various types of Church architecture to Rosalie Lewis and Ann Sandusky.




The study of the Cuban crisis enlivens discussion in modern history class for Jan Overmire, Marsha Witman, Kathleen Felicioni, Judith Carter, Diane Gilbert, Shirley Ryzy, Mary Jane King, Patricia Raap, Pamela Dunneback, Sharon Gerke, and their instructor, Sister Mary Consilium.





JUNIORS



Outstretching to a lustrous rapid, misty veiled,
Thunderous falling covers wistful mirth of youth.

Twinkling



Donna Bailey
Diane Barecki
Julie Burghduff
Mary Burtch



Marcia De Vries
Mary Duba
Betty Everse



Sylvia Felicioni
Mary Fix
Judith Forbes



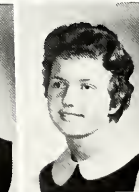
Elizabeth Fron
Lorraine Gabert



Patricia Gerulis
Kathleen Gietzen
Kathleen Herman



Outlining the many plans for the class of 1962 are: Patricia Omilian, president; Donna Bailey, treasurer; Mary Burtch, vice-president; Karen Van Loo, secretary.



Marilyn Hoffman
Patricia Hotovy
Marilyn Hupp



Mary Kaye Johnson
Rosalie Johnson
Sandra Johnson
Judith Joswick

Smiles Overflow

Barbara Jurewicz
Judith Kennedy
Mary Kowalczyk
Margaret Kumko



Mary Kumko
Constance Kuno
Mary Kuslikis



Carol Lipscomb
Barbara Malek
Joyce Masalkoski



The Juniors of 1961

Maureen McDermott
Sharon McDonald



Kathleen Mickna
Bernadette Mlynarchek
Carol Mull



Sandra Muraski
Carol O'Hearn
Patricia Omilian



Kathleen Peterson
Bonnie Price
Kathleen Priest
Josephine Raymond



Class of 1962



Mary Reens
Lois Rock



Therese Ronan
Mary Beth Ruth
Marilyn Schmidt



Sandra Schumaker
Maria Siedlecki
Shirley Siegel



Janice Skinner
Arlene Smith



Arlynn Smith
Jennifer Stokes
Karen Van Loo



JoAnne VanOeffelen
Kathleen Wehler
Betty White

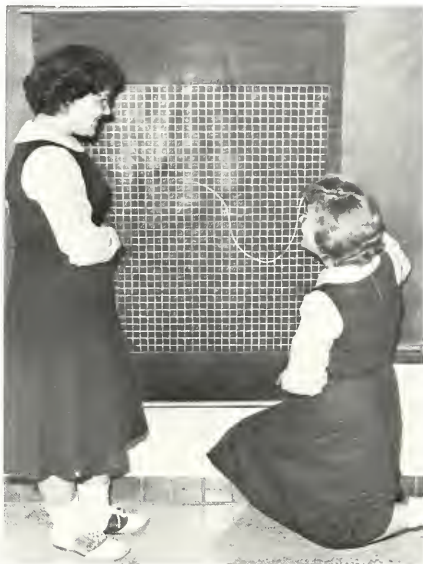


Linda Wum
Edwina Zayko



Classic Studies Enhance Mind and Soul

Junior year is a time of decision. Future teachers, nurses, scientists, all are beginning to make plans for the years stretching ahead. Combining the equations and theories of subjects already mastered, trigonometry students climb a step higher to the mastery of higher mathematics. Language, foreign and native, ancient and modern, an important part of the high school curriculum, is polished to a brilliant shine as declensions and vocabulary become a working part of every day actions. The studies of today develop the young women of tomorrow.



Maria Siedlecki looks on as Mary Kuslikis illustrates how to graph the cosine of an angle in their trigonometry class.



Barbara Malek singles out and explains a mythological hero to Latin III students, Jennifer Stokes and Patricia Gerulis.



Judith Kennedy reviews the phonetic symbols, helps to pronunciation, with Betty Everse, Maureen McDermott, Carol O'Hearn, and Elizabeth Fron, first year French students.

Long Thoughts and Endeavors

Deepen the Soul



Junior religion students, Patricia Omilian, Donna Bailey, Mary Kaye Johnson, and Julie Burghduff, conduct a panel discussion on the various forms of the Seven Capital Sins.

A study and careful analysis of the social and ethical elements of Catholicism are material for junior Religion class. Debates and solid conclusions always help strengthen firm moral convictions in the minds of future graduates.

Proper attitudes of mind are expressed in outward action just as ideas become works of art in ceramics class. Through careful instruction in the ceramic department students become more aware of their own personalities and find external means of expression of ideas.



Completing a statuette and ceramic mosaic are Arlene Smith and Marybeth Leigh in the popular ceramics room.



Junior religion students, Judith Kennedy, Kathleen Gietzen, Patricia Hotovy, Arlene Smith, and Carol Lipscomb prepare to execute one of the Corporal Works of Mercy through their Christmas party for underprivileged children.

Juniors Pass Historic Milestones



Valuable to the study of the Civil War Centenary, Civil War relics are held in awe by junior American Government students Kathleen Gietzen, Judith Kennedy, Mary Kuslikis, and Patricia Omilian.



Janice Skinner and Marilyn Hoffman find Mount Mercy's library an excellent source of material for the critical study of American History.



Father Hugh Michael Beahan blesses and distributes the class rings to the class of '62.

Juniors Embark on Clerical Careers



First year typists: Sylvia Felicioni, Mary Duba, Kathleen Priest, Kathleen Herman, Mary Burch, and Janice Skinner practice on their speed and accuracy.



Attempting to perfect their shorthand skill with diligent practice are Barbara Malek, Patricia Gerulis, Sylvia Felicioni, Marilyn Hupp, Sandra Johnson, Betty White, JoAnne VanOeffelen, Kathleen Wehler, and Kathleen Gietzen.

Tides of Understanding Flow Onward



Making and decorating cookies, Mary Anne Peters, and Marybeth Diskey get ready for the Student Council Christmas Party.



Under the watchful eye of Mary Kaye Johnson, Geraldine Johnson and Marilyn Schmidt adjust her formal to the proper length. The dress is Mary Kaye's own handiwork.

Bernadette Mynarchek and Mary Kuslikis demonstrate the method of distilling water as Chemistry students, Therese Ronan, Sandra Muraski, Edwina Zayko, Bonita Price and Kathleen Priest, watch intently.



American Literature, a focal point of the junior year and taught by Sister Mary Consilium, provides an enlightening step into Americana.



SENIORS

Whispering waves swish like white crisp organdy,
Twilight serenity reflects a spiritual peace.

Deep-Rooted Knowledge Cascades Over Difficult Spots



Melodious strains of "Sainte nuit, a minuit . . ." softly echo as LaDoris Steffes, Noelle Graham, Diane Brown, and Kathleen Tobin, second year French students, sing "Silent Night".



Father Beahan prepares to embark on another day's instruction of the senior marriage course as Linda Buroccki, Margery Buffin, Patricia Anisko, and Marianne Barto wait in anticipation.



Arguments for the existence of a Supreme Being are suggested by Father Beahan as opposing sides represented by seniors Patricia Anisko, Beatrice Ullom, Betty Mason, Dianne Brown, Linda Buroccki and Marybeth Diskey prepare to debate the question.

Scientists and Mathematicians Prepare



Senior Physics students Patricia Wierzbicki, Mary Beth Leigh and Beatrice Ullom observe Karen Schumaker completing an experiment on the coefficient of expansion of steel.

Today's classroom scientist may be tomorrow's nuclear physicist. Climbing even higher in their quest of the unknown, senior mathematics and physics students quench their never-ending thirst for knowledge. The challenge of the classroom problem may soon become the difference between survival and destruction. Mount Mercy is ready!



Explaining how to find the area of a cylinder to members of the Solid Geometry Class is Karen Schumaker.

Soaring Expressions Illumine Depths of Ideas



Intent on publicizing the fact that February is Catholic Press Month are journalism students, Mary Ann Markham, Sandra Johnson, Sharon Schindler, Jeanne Chulski, and Diane Brown with their instructor Sister Mary Consilium.



The study of the Elizabethan period greatly interests the seniors. Marcia Redlon displays a miniature Globe Theatre while Sandra Dykstra, Kathleen Tobin, Bonita Brown sing "Who is Sylvia" by William Shakespeare, and Phyllis Muszkiewicz prepares to tell of her visit to Verona, Italy, Juliet's town.



Patricia Wierzbicki studiously endeavors to complete a problem in drafting, one of the many practical applications of mathematics and art theory.

Waves of Determination Develop Dependability

Every day thousands of attractive, intelligent, determined, and capable young women seek employment in the world of business. The students of Mount Mercy's Commercial Department, under the guidance of Sister Mary Placide are striving toward this goal. The basic skills of shorthand and typing are studied, drilled, and, in time, become letter-perfect. The debits and credits of a bookkeeping class fit into place and the books begin to balance. Grooming, good manners, voice quality, and efficiency become natural traits.



A study of concentration and purpose, these Typing II students fulfill a class assignment given by commercial instructor, Sister Mary Placide.



Demonstrating the use of the Diva Suma Computer in Secretarial Practice Course are Diane Miller, Carolyn Knauf, Geraldine Heitz, and Michele Konkle.



Joan Rybaski, assisted by Noelle Graham, explains the fundamentals of income tax forms to senior Bookkeeping students, Margaret Ignasiak and Carol Hathaway.



Sister Mary Loyola illustrates how to identify the various cuts of meat to the Senior Home Economics Class.

Bubbling Broth Brings Aroma of Success

"Home is where the heart is." The senior Home Economic students find truth in this age-old statement. After three years, under the patient direction of Sister Mary Loyola, the girls become culinary artists. They will be modern homemakers, combining their knowledge of planned economy, delectable menus, well-balanced meals, and various sewing intricacies. The managers of tomorrow's homes have found a place for their hearts.



Learning the art of canning peaches, one of the many facets of Senior Home Economics, are Marianne Barto, Mary Jane Fennell, and Marybeth Diskey.

Citizenship Patterns

Sound Social Living



A vital part of Sociology, study of the four temperaments, is thoroughly discussed in class by Geraldine Weber, Barbara Robach, Mary Ann Markham, and Patricia Zickus.



Karen Schumaker presents a stuffed elephant to Representative Gerald Ford thanking him for visiting the American Government class and for his informative discussion of congressional methods.

Speech students, Joan Martin, Patricia Zickus, Mary Jane Terakowski, and Cheryl Kline, use the department's tape recorder for sound effects to relate children's fairy tales effectively.





ACTIVITIES



Golden waves come dancing, cascading
Reflecting grace as folds of gay chiffon.

Student Self-Government Becomes



Student Council officers, vice-president, Cecille Platte; treasurer, Jane Thiefs; secretary, Joyce Masalkoski; and president, Susan Quinn, discuss future activities designed to encourage school spirit.



Officers elected as the governing power of the student body find solutions to pressing school problems. Homeroom representatives discuss various topics concerning school rules and life at provocative meetings with the faculty. Opinions voiced, new methods tried, old rules rewritten, are all for the ideals of a better, more perfect self-government.

Sylvia Felicioni, one of Mount Mercy's amiable hostesses, greets visitors with a vivacious smile.

an Active Part of School Life



At the Student Council Christmas Party, Father Beahan questions Judith Olewinski about Christmas customs for a broadcast on WOOD Radio Central. The annual party begins with caroling as the girls march into Alumnae Hall.



Patricia Wierzbicki and Cecillie Platte discuss the choice of a new school seal as part of one of the Student Council's many accomplishments this year.

A reasonable facsimile of this seal, chosen by the Student Council members, will represent Mount Mercy Academy in future years.



Quality of Soul Is Expressed



The student body reverently prays the mysteries of the Holy Rosary.



Sacristans, Janet Brown, Linda Rasch, and Phyllis Muszkiewicz, arrange the communion cloth in Sacred Heart Chapel as one of their daily volunteer duties.



Officers of the Sodality, Bonnie Price, Bernadette Mlyanarchek, and Bonnie Price take part in the annual Sodality May Crowning. LaDoris Steffes, prefect, enjoys the honor of being the one to crown Our Lady.

in Zealous Apostolates



Young Christian Students officers, Bonita Brown, president, Kathleen Herman, vice-president, Alice Czarnopys, secretary, Sandra Dykstra, treasurer, pause during their planning one of their worthwhile projects, babysitting for CFM members who are to attend a workshop.

Endeavoring to enliven the spirit of the lay apostle, the Young Christian Students see, judge, and act upon social, religious, and world problems. Through faithful participation and perseverance in constructive actions, YCS'ers become competent leaders. With Christ's help and grace, the members will be tomorrow's well-informed Catholics and citizens.



"Shall we dance?" echoes through Alumnae Hall at the annual YCS Father-Daughter Dance. Proudly escorted by their Dads are Bonita and Mr. Lawrence Brown, Marcia and Mr. Clarence Redlon, Michele and Mr. Vern E. Konkle.



At the YCS-Sodality Dance, "Autumn Capers", LaDoris Steffes, Sodality Prefect, and WJEF disc jockey, James Belding, smile as Bonira Brown, YCS president, clowns as a scarecrow.

Retreat Incites New Fervor



Just before the turn of the year, Mercians face a new spiritual awakening. They recall all the past events of the year and make resolutions for the improvement of the coming year. Retreat becomes for every girl a burning vigil light. This light shines within their hearts as they proceed on the path to eternal salvation. By Holy Mass, Stations of the Cross, conferences, and rosaries, the girls attempt to attain peace of soul. Private conferences are offered for those who question their vocations or spiritual status. Each Mercian begins the New Year with a shining heart and soul.

Father Howard Ralenkotter, C.P., pauses beside the statue of our model, Mary Immaculate, before delivering one of his retreat conferences.



After their morning meditations and conferences, the girls enter Sacred Heart Chapel for participation in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.



Adding his typical touch of humor with an anecdote, Father Ralenkotter addresses the girls on the more perfect life.



Linda Wurm and Judith Forbes pause to assist their friend, Sister Mary Laurence, to her place before entering the chapel for Holy Mass.



Beatrice Ullom, senior, finds a quiet spot in Sacred Heart Chapel to meditate upon the day's events.

Inquisitive Minds Strengthen Healing Hands



Favors for children confined to city hospital beds, one of the Future Nurses' Clubs' annual activities, are prepared by Sandra Muraski, Betty Mason, and Betty White.

Combining the comfort of a tender bedside manner, with the thoroughness that complete knowledge brings, the nurse is humanity's career woman. Preparing for the day when their induction into their chosen profession is achieved, members of Mount Mercy's Future Nurses Club work diligently at their many assigned projects.



Officers of the Future Nurses' Club, including Phyllis Muszkiewicz, treasurer; Carol Alt, secretary; Mary Duba, vice president; Cheryl Kline, president, give club members insight into future careers.



Members of the Future Nurses' Club, Phyllis Muszkiewicz, Christine Duba, Constance Kuno, and Joyce Masalkoski choose interesting pamphlets and brochures concerning a nursing career.

Artists Are Partners with God in Creation



The ceramics class students Elaine Tisch, Edith Butler, Margery Buffin, Geraldine Woods, Jean Ignasiak, Sharon Johnson, and Betty Mason arrange an artistic display of their work for the Brush and Palette Club for the Art and Science Fair at Mount Mercy.



Brush and Palette Club officers Maribeth Leigh, president; Mary Chris Kowalczyk, vice president, Ruth Ann Cebelak, secretary; and Patricia Smith, treasurer, discuss plans for a lively future meeting.



Mary Chris Kowalczyk and Barbara Rakiec complete portions of a Hawaiian mural to be used in the Aloha area on Mercy Festal Nights.

Expressions of Physical Fitness

Portray Good Sportsmanship



Girls' Athletic Association officers surveying the net before another volleyball game are Mary Lee Markham, treasurer; Patricia Makowski, president; Elizabeth Fron, vice-president; and Rosalie Johnson, secretary.



Novice volleyball players, the sophomores, practice diligently during Physical Education class, striving to win the tournament championship title.

Striving for physical fitness in both mind and body, the members of the Girls' Athletic Association combine surprising dexterity and exuberance. Volley Ball tournaments create a lively competitive spirit. Winter sports head the list in the activities as the girls industriously strive for credits to attain their Mercian letters.



Sportsminded juniors, Judith Kennedy, Judith Joswick, Patricia Horovy, Lorraine Gabert, and Kathleen Gietzen, survey their bowling trophies with pride.



Members of the Girls' Athletic Association, Marianne Barto and Sharon Johnson post the next volley ball games which are part of the spring tournament.

Interpretive Actions

Express Hidden Talent

The motto of the Mercian Theatre Arts Club "Give Beauty Back to God", is symbolic of the feelings of its many and dedicated members. Their participation in the many drama festivals, various plays, and frequent meetings expresses their eagerness and forthright zeal to make our school fully aware of both the entertainment and knowledge gained through drama.



Demonstrating the do's and don'ts of public speaking mannerisms at a Mercian Theatre Arts Club meeting are Barbara Rollins, Judith Olewinski, Sharon Larson, Barbara Robach and Beatrice Ullom.

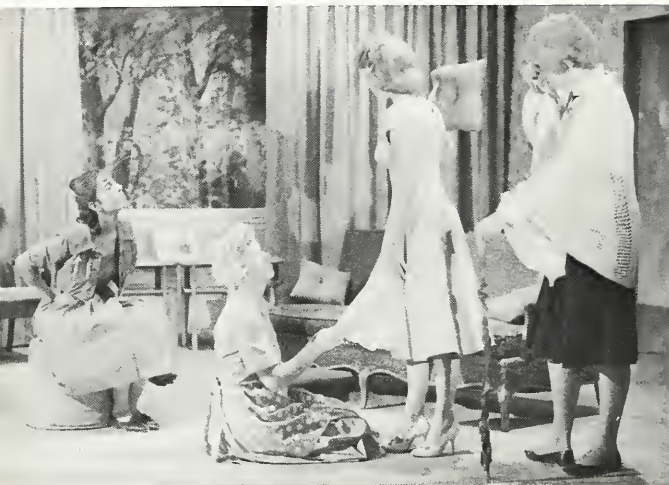


Speech Club officers of the Mercian Theatre Arts Club, Sharon Larson, president; Mary Jo Phillips, treasurer; and Betty Everse, secretary; prepare a film to be shown at the club's next meeting.

Senior speech enthusiasts, Mary Jane Terakowski, Sharon Larson, Mary Beth Diskey, Patricia Wierzbicki, Mary Linda Coffey, and Mary Jane Fennell, honor Our Blessed Mother in their special Christmas production, "At the Feet of the Madonna."



Seniors Present Stage Success: 'Family'



"If you say that again I'll . . ."

Cast of Characters

Bonnie	Barbara Rollins
Ann	Marybeth Diskey
Mrs. Shepherd	Barbara Robach
Sarah	Joan Martin
Aunt Abigail	Patricia Zickus
Old Lady Partington	Noelle Graham
Mrs. Partington	Patti Wierzbicki
Vivian Partington	Beatrice Ullom
Jenny Jason	Marybeth Leigh
Susan Sherwood	Judith Olewinski
Mary Chandler	Michele Konkle
Marie	Diane Brown

* * *

Assistant Director	Patricia Makowski
Stage Manager	Mary Jane Fennell



"It's Benjie, Bonnie . . ."



Patricia Makowski, assistant director, explains characterization of the tea scene to an attentive cast.

Tree'



"Make way--the Duchess!"



"My dear misinformed young woman . . ."



"Who does she think she is anyway?"

Carol Piechocki, Susan Braun, Mary Linda Coffey, Sharon Larson, Sister Mary Paschal, Mary Jane Fennell, Father Beahan, Betty Mason, and Linda Lipinski tackle the problems of a stage crew.



Journalists Express Mercian Activities

All eyes are focused on the latest edition of the HILLTOP NEWS. Noses are buried between the white pages as the student body concentrates on 'what's new in the news'. Of paramount importance is the well-trained HILLTOP staff, for without their incessant determination, the school paper would not flourish. 'A continuous conversation piece' is the standing definition for our much-read, much-loved HILLTOP NEWS.

Jean Ingersoll, Diane Miller, Judith Martin, and Patricia Anisko, members of the HILLTOP staff, show their readiness for service by preparing recent issues of the HILLTOP for the mail.



Column writers of the HILLTOP staff Susan Quinn, Noelle Graham, Cecilie Platte, Mary Jane Fennell, Patricia Makowski, Marybeth Diskey, Loretta Platte, Kathleen Tobin, and Diane Brown busily discuss their new assignments.



As Pandora and Herman, the paper's porcelain mascot and friend, look on, HILLTOP Staff members Mary Ann Makham, Betty Mason, Nancy Schoenborn, Marlene Przelomski, and Barbara Robach prepare another captivating issue.



Important to the staff of the HILLTOP are its typists, Carol Alt, Sharon Johnson, and Mary Lee Markham.

1961 Mercian Becomes A Treasury of the Year's Accomplishments

After many endeavors, hopes, and expectations, the Mercian staff can sigh with satisfaction. Here editors, managers, co-editors, and assistants have completed their main objective. The year 1961 will remain a burning memory in the hearts of seniors, and the freshmen will recall their buoyant beginnings. Pages of the Mercian unfold moments of joy, excitement, wistfulness, solemnity, and consequence, bringing to all the story of Mount Mercy Academy, 1961.

Leafing through past editions of the MERCIAN, Sharon Schindler, editor, and Diane Brown, literary editor, see the excellent results of concentrated efforts.



The financial and publicity end of the MERCIAN staff, Sandra Dykstra, Barbara Rollins, and Beatrice Ullom, compute essential data.



Members of the MERCIAN staff, Kathleen Tobin, Noelle Graham, Susan Quinn, Judith Olewinski, and Michele Konkle, choose prints for the 1961 MERCIAN.



Geraldine Weber, Patricia Makowski, Diane Barecki, and Sylvia Felicioni check copy for year-book production.



Discussing variations in the arrangement of the layout for the MERCIAN are Linda Buroccki, Marcia Redlon, Sandra Anikowski, and Bonita Brown.



Mercian Activities and Assemblies

Bringing the student body into a closely knit unit, the bi-weekly assemblies are always met with eager acceptance. School spirit reigns supreme while Mercians attentively enjoy carefully planned programs for their education and entertainment.



Susan Quinn, Student Council president, chats with Mr. John Bloxom of the Grand Rapids Safety Council before he addresses the assembly on safety in the use of electricity.



Illustrating the safety aspect of Student Council, Sandra Johnson and Kathleen Herman award a Smith Safety Seal to one of the students.

Many attentive observers flock to Mount Mercy's Science and Art Project Day exhibit to view the many projects completed by art students and the sophomore biology classes.



Foster School Unity



Ann Sandusky, Rosemary Hoogterp, and Kathleen Ford happily emerge from the Genesian Speech Festival at McAuley Auditorium in Detroit.



Portraying a scene from the Mercy Day Assembly are Mary Jane Fennell, Cheryl Kline, and Sharon Johnson.



Working for her advanced diploma in music under Sister Mary Vincent, Mary Jane Terakowski finds that perfect practice makes perfect.



Mary Lee Markham, advanced music student of Sister Mary Albertina, enjoys her world of music.

"Big" and "little" sisters find dancing a mutual entertainment at the senior-freshman mixer.



Memories of



Queen Elaine

Sharon Larson



the Festal Nites



A smiling court, Susan Kozak, Diane Rollins, Barbara Arsulowicz, Elaine Tisch, queen; Sandra Kiss, and Charla Emery, reigned with grace and charm at Mercy Festal Night.



The Polkatos furnish lively music for the Blue Hawaiian Room during the Mercy Festal Nights.



Lovely Hawaiian hostesses, Carol Hathaway, Sharon Schindler, Geraldine Weber, and Linda Burocki, rest amidst the sheltering palms.



Many people found Mercy Festal Nights both profitable and entertaining, as seen on the faces of the crowds that thronged the halls and auditorium.

Misty Memories ...

Completely captivated were the seniors at the Junior-Senior Banquet. Delicious delicacies tempting their appetites, charming entertainment, a night to remember—can only describe the wonderful southern evening the juniors gave the seniors.



Maria Siedlecki, Mary Duba, and Mary Burtch, discuss the table arrangements for the much anticipated Junior-Senior Banquet.



With glowing anticipation, Geraldine Weber shows Patricia Anisko the formal she has chosen for this year's prom.

Hold Magic Moments



Kathleen Tobin, Thomas Nystrom, Marybeth Leigh, James Johnston, Ray Zigmont, and Diane Brown gather around the punch bowl before the prom.

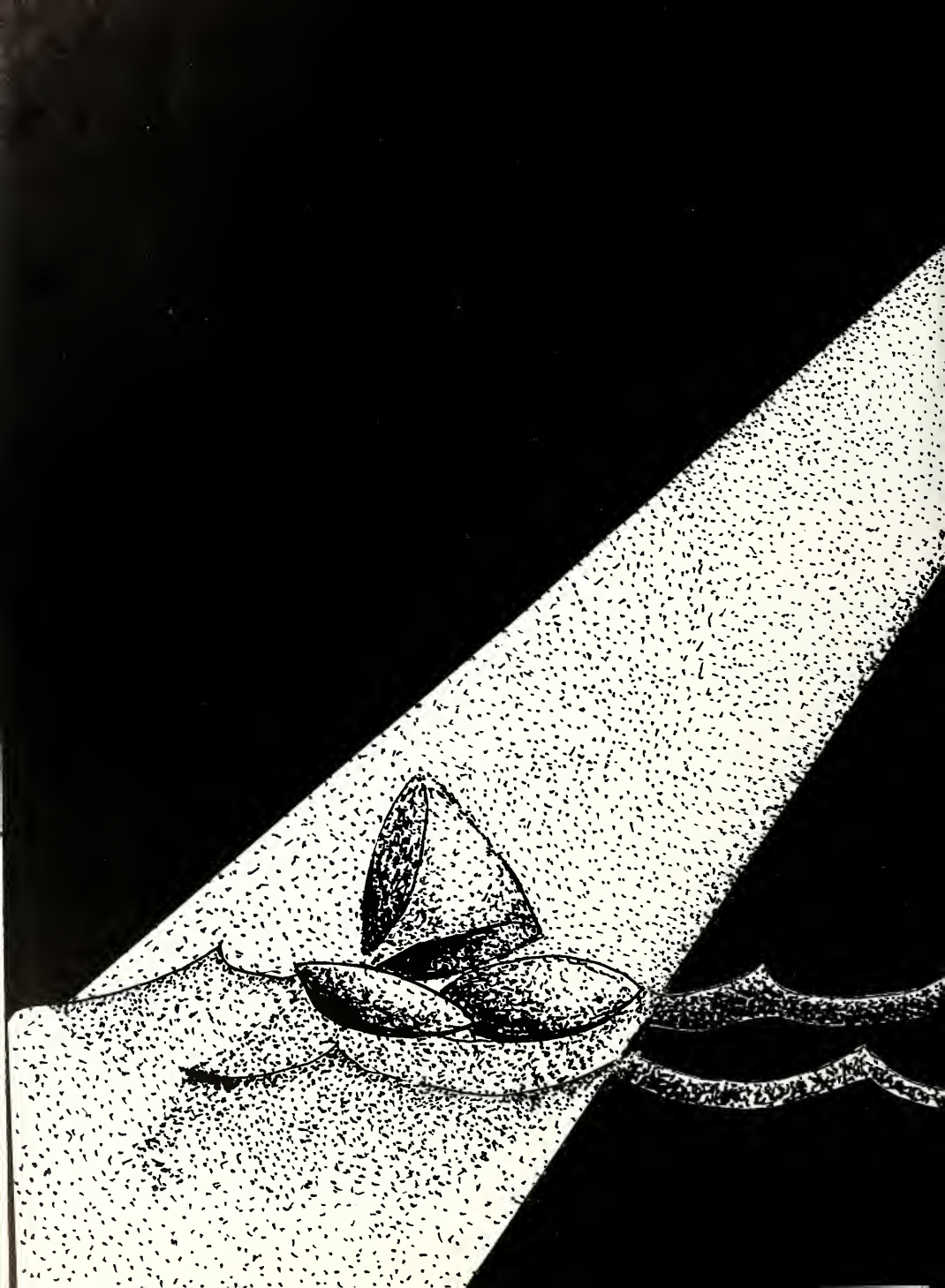
Magical moments recall a night ever-remembered. Blue Mist brings a dreamy theme with soft swirling music to that wonderful world of feminine fantasy. The prom may end, the dancing may stop, but in seniors' hearts it will always remain.



At a small get-together after the prom, Thomas Nystrom, Kathleen Tobin, James Johnston, and Sandra Dykstra discuss the evening's festivities.



"The party's over . . .", and Sandra Dykstra dreamily recalls the night that she'll always hold in her memory.





GRADUATION

Rushing on to unknown depths of soul and mind,
On and onward perseverance quells the turbulent undertow.
Then driving light breaks overshadowing doubt.

God, Our Light,



Valedictorian and Salutatorian for the class of 1961 are Karen Schumaker and Mary Jane Terakowski.

Seniors elected to the National Honor Society Mary Ann Markham, Judith Olewinski, Patricia Zickus, Mary Jane Terakowski, Cecillie Platte, LaDoris Steffes, Barbara Robach, Loretta Platte, Bonita Brown, Nancy Schoenborn, and Barbara Rollins who have maintained a high scholastic achievement in leadership, scholarship, and service.

Officers of the Senior Class, Mary Jane Fennell, secretary; Loretta Platte, vice-president; Barbara Robach, treasurer; and Judith Olewinski, president, give by their example, determination, and purpose to the Class of 1961.



Has Guided Our Way

Sandra Jean Anikowski

A twinkle in her eye, friendship in her heart . . .

Latin Club, Mercian Staff, GAA

Carole Lynne Alt

Carefree possessor of enduring faith and loyalty . . .

Hilltop News Staff, MTAC, NCTC, Glee Club, GAA, Future Teachers Club, Future Nurses Club Secretary



Patricia Ann Anisko

Light-heartedness her captivating quality . . .

Hilltop News Staff, Glee Club, GAA, Future Teachers Club



Susan Catherine Braun

Offering everyone her cheerful slant on life . . .

YCS, Latin Club, Glee Club, GAA

Marianne Eileen Barto

Both cheerful and capable, the ideal friend . . .

Latin Club, Brush and Palette Club, GAA



Class of 1961

Bonita Blanche Brown

A happy face mirroring a happy heart . . .

Transferred from St. Joseph High School, Wright. National Honor Society, Sodality, YCS President, Mercian Staff, MTAC, NCTC, Glee Club



We Have Lived . . .

Diane Louise Brown

Delicately feminine yet with a flair
for the bizarre . . .

Scholastic Honor Society, YCS,
Mercian Literary Editor, Hilltop
News Staff, Brush and Palette Club,
MTAC, GAA, Future Teachers Club



Janet Diane Brown

In the quiet manner of a true and
loyal friend . . .

Transferred from St. Joseph High
School, Wright. Sodality, Glee Club,
GAA



Margery Evadenia Buffin

For no dull moments, the very
spark of life . . .

Latin Club, Brush and Palette Club,
Glee Club



Linda Louise Buroccki

Courage and effort, her talents sur-
preme . . .

Mercian Staff, MTAC, Glee Club,
GAA



Edith Louise Butler

Exterior personality manifesting in-
terior talent . . .

Latin Club, Brush and Palette Club,
GAA

in the Truth

Jeanne Marie Chulski

With the courage to dare to be different . . .

Transferred from Catholic Central,
Grand Rapids. Latin Club, MTAC,
Glee Club, GAA



Mary Linda Coffey

Quicker to give than to receive,
maker of friends . . .

YCS, Hilltop News Staff, MTAC,
NCTC, GAA, Future Teachers Club



Mary Elizabeth Diskey

Polished teen, agreeable but unpredictable . . .

Hilltop News Staff, MTAC, Brush
and Palette Club, GAA, Future
Teachers Club



Sandra Ann Dykstra

Pastel loveliness bubbling with enthusiasm . . .

YCS Treasurer, Mercian Staff, Hill-
top News Staff, MTAC, Glee Club,
GAA, Future Teachers Club



Mary Jane Fennell

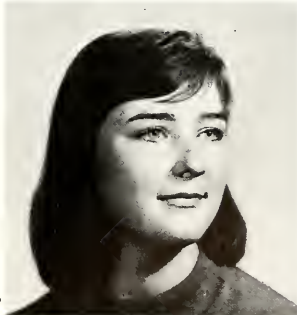
A helpful nature with a future full of
promise . . .

Senior Class Secretary, Hilltop News
Staff, Latin Club, GAA, Future Nurs-
es Club

Noelle Therese Graham

Classic grace revealing an inde-
pendent mind . . .

French Club, Mercian Staff, MTAC,
Glee Club, GAA, Future Teachers
Club



Faithfulness Will be Our



Geraldine Kay Heitz

With a tranquil air of dignity and charm . . .

Latin Club, Glee Club, GAA



Margaret Mary Ignasiak

A ray of sunshine, fair and demure . . .

Latin Club, GAA



Jean Marie Ingersoll

Shyly effacing but always willing to help . . .

YCS, Hilltop News Staff, MTAC, GAA, Future Teachers Club



Sharon Lee Johnson

Perfectly poised combination of beauty and charm . . .

YCS, Hilltop News Staff, Brush and Palette Club, MTAC, GAA



Cheryl Ann Kline

Possessor of much appreciated sincerity and warmth . . .

Transferred from St. Joseph High School, Wright. Sodality, YCS, MTAC, Glee Club, GAA, Future Nurses Club President

Hallmark, Now and Forever

Michele Kathleen Konkle

An exuberant nature radiating friendliness . . .

Mercian Staff, MTAC, NCTC, Glee Club, Brush and Palette Club, GAA



Carolyn Marie Knauf

A person wealthy in quiet charm and friendliness . . .

Hilltop News Staff, Latin Club, Glee Club, GAA



Sharon Norrine Larson

A helpful attitude mirroring a generous heart . . .

MTAC President, GAA, Future Teachers Club



Lynda Marie Lipinski

A friend of all, even-tempered and helpful . . .

Sodality, Latin Club, MTAC, Glee Club, GAA



Mari Elizabeth Leigh

A bundle of delight, wrapped with nonsense . . .

Transferred from Union High School
Brush and Palette Club President,
Future Nurses Club

Patricia Ann Makowski

Expressive mannerisms complementing a winning personality . . .

Sodality, YCS, Mercian Staff, Hilltop News Staff, MTAC, NCTC, GAA, Future Teachers Club



Love to Serve and . . .

Mary Ann Markham

But with a calm disposition, an irrepressible twinkle in her eyes . . .

National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Hilltop News Staff, Brush and Palette Club, GAA, Future Teachers Club



Mary Lee Markham

Silently gracious, sincere and unassuming . . .

Hilltop News Staff, Latin Club, MTAC, GAA, Future Nurses Club



Joan Ellen Martin

Rare dignity and friendliness . . .

Latin Club, MTAC, GAA, Future Nurses Club



Judy Marie Martin

An individualist full of harmless mischief . . .

Latin Club, MTAC, GAA, Future Nurses Club



Elizabeth Ann Mason

An enemy of dullness, an ally of fun . . .

Transferred from the Academy of Our Lady, Peoria, Illinois. Sodality, Hilltop News Staff, MTAC, NCTC, Glee Club, GAA, Future Nurses Club

Serve to Love is

Our Motto

Diane Patricia Miller

Having a quiet manner but never exactly showing it . . .

YCS, Hilltop News Staff, Latin Club, Brush and Palette Club, Glee Club, GAA

Mary Ann Peters

A sparkling smile enhancing velvety brown eyes . . .

YCS, Latin Club, GAA



Phyllis Anne Muszkiewicz

Shy aggressiveness, brimming with life and vivacity . . .

Transferred from Elizabethtown Catholic High School, Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Sodality, Future Nurses Club Treasurer



Judith Victoria Olewinski

Humor and good sense in delightful array . . .

National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Senior Class President, Sodality, Mercian Staff, Hilltop News Staff, MTAC, NCTC, GAA



Carol Ann Piechocki

Constantly spreading sunshine by her friendly ways . . .

Latin Club, Brush and Palette Club, Glee Club, GAA

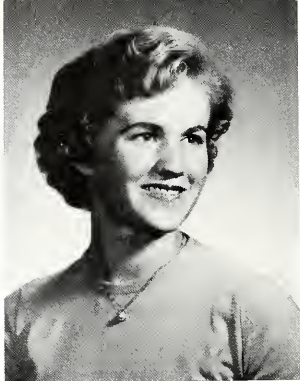
Cecilie Rae Platte

Laughter brightening the halls of the heart . . .

National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Student Council Vice-President, Hilltop News Staff, Future Nurses Club



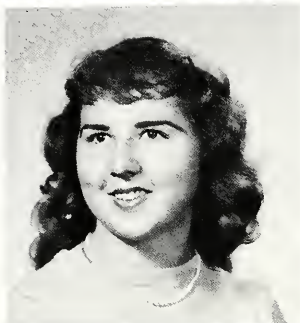
Mercian Idealists, Having



Loretta Jean Platte

A faithful dependable friend with a disposition constantly sunny . . .

National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, YCS, Hilltop News Staff, MTAC, GAA, Future Teachers Club



Marlene Jean Przelomski

A winning smile showing the purpose of her deeds . . .

Latin Club, Hilltop News Staff, Brush and Palette Club, GAA



Susan Martha Quinn

Nonchalant perfection in everything she does . . .

Scholastic Honor Society, Student Council President, Sodality, Hilltop News Staff, Mercian Staff, MTAC, NCTC, Glee Club, GAA, Future Nurses Club



Barbara Christine Rakiec

Style of accomplishment revealing inborn character . . .

Sodality, Latin Club, Brush and Palette Club, GAA



Linda Louise Rasch

Friendliness personified . . .

Transferred from St. Joseph High School, Wright. Sodality, Glee Club, GAA

Learned We Long to Do

Marcia Anne Redlon

Manner belying her mischief . . .

Latin Club, Mercian Staff, MTAC,
NCTC, GAA



Barbara Joyce Rollins

Wistfully combining beauty and
naturalness . . .

National Honor Society, Scholastic
Honor Society, Sodality, YCS, Mer-
cian Staff, MTAC, NCTC, Glee Club,
GAA, Future Teachers Club



Barbara Kathryn Robach

Presenting some daily happiness
others can make their own . . .

National Honor Society, Scholastic
Honor Society, Sodality, Senior
Class Treasurer, Hilltop News Staff,
MTAC, NCTC, GAA, Future Teach-
ers Club



Joan Ellen Rybaski

Her genuine friendliness a credit to
her personality . . .

Transferred from Union High School
YCS, Mercian Staff

Sharon Anne Schindler

Short in stature but very tall in
character . . .

Scholastic Honor Society, Mercian
Editor, Brush and Palette Club,
MTAC, GAA, Future Teachers Club

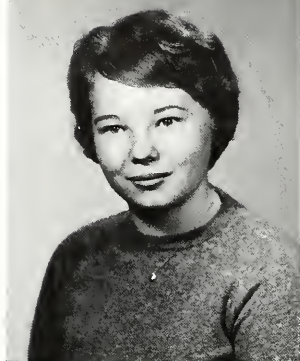
Nancy Ellen Schoenborn

Resourceful and capable with pleas-
ant grace . . .

National Honor Society, Scholastic
Honor Society, Latin Club, Hilltop
News Editor, MTAC, GAA



The End is But a . . .



Sandra Mary Schuitema

Admirable actions outspeaking her words . . .

Latin Club, Glee Club



Karen Schumaker

An industrious student with a keen sense of values . . .

Scholastic Honor Society, Brush and Palette Club, GAA, Future Teachers Club, Valedictorian



Judith Louise Smith

Sweetness and poise setting out to accomplish many things . . .

Latin Club, MTAC, Glee Club, GAA



LaDoris Rose Steffes

Calm determination equal to success . . .

National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Sodality Prefect, Brush and Palette Club, GAA, Future Teachers Club



Mary Jane Terakowski

Dark eyes illuminating beauty and depth of soul . . .

National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Music Graduate, Brush and Palette Club, MTAC, NCTC, Glee Club, GAA

Glorious



Beginning

Elaine Marie Tisch

Combining pleasant grace with contagious laughter . . .

Latin Club, Hilltop News Staff,
Brush and Palette Club, MTAC,
NCTC, GAA

Kathleen Marie Tobin

The personification of exuberant effervescence . . .

YCS, Mercian Art Editor, Latin Club,
Brush and Palette Club, GAA, Future Nurses Club



Beatrice Ann Ullom

A dynamo of ambition radiating placid beauty . . .

YCS, Mercian Staff, MTAC, NCTC,
GAA, Future Nurses Club



Geraldine Jane Weber

Unassuming authority manifesting competent leadership . . .

YCS, Mercian Staff, MTAC, GAA,
Future Teachers Club, Future Nurses Club



Patricia Marie Wierzbicki

A delightful blend of dignity and daring . . .

Hilltop News Staff, Latin Club,
Brush and Palette Club, MTAC,
GAA

Patricia Ann Zickus

Accomplishing everything with perfection . . .

National Honor Society, Scholastic Honor Society, Sodality, MTAC,
NCTC, GAA, Future Nurses Club



Graduates Meet Onrushing Tides



Noelle Graham offers her graduation rose to the Blessed Virgin in silent thanksgiving.

The smiling faces of "life-time" Mercians Barbara Rollins, Cecilie Platte, Patricia Zickus, Marybeth Diskey, Michele Konkle, Judith Smith, Diane Brown, and Noelle Graham give testimony of thirteen happy years at Mount Mercy Academy.



With Determination



Susan Braun, Lynda Lipinski, and Judith Smith robe themselves for the momentous graduation ceremony practice.




Janet Brown and LaDoris Steffes prepare to lead commencement exercises in Sacred Heart Chapel.

Preparing to receive their diplomas, seniors Linda Rasch, Geraldine Heitz, Judith Smith, Noelle Graham, Susan Braun, Lynda Lipinski, and Barbara Robach solemnly advance toward their final goal.





PATRONS



Thus the tides flow on and surge to the new,
blending in the old, ecstatic, humdrum,
exhilarating, momentous bits of life and on
through many tomorrows.



CONGRATULATIONS

To The Graduating Class

of 1961

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE
CLASS OF 1961**

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Wilfred H. Tisch**

• **GERRIE Tauter**

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to the
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CONGRATULATIONS

To The Graduating Class of 1960

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Michigan



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ARE
JUST
AROUND
THE CORNER**

A milestone's about to happen. Your graduation marks a decisive period in your life. Behind is an important, formative period of learning. And ahead? The course is yours to choose, whether it be more study or the start of a career. We at Michigan Consolidated Gas Company join friends and family in wishing you well in your new adventures... hoping that your new-worlds-to-conquer outlook never dims.

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DISTINCTION"



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CLASS OF 1961

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GRAND RAPIDS 4, MICHIGAN

BEST WISHES !

VERBRUGGE'S SERVICE

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Sue Ollis, second year art student, displays some of her finished works at the March Art and Science Project Day.



Mrs. T. Majewski and Rosemary Ptak prepare coffee for the mothers of the freshmen at the Mount Mercy League Tea.

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Holy Spirit Parish

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120 Roosevelt Street
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CH. 3-2082
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CH. 3-8261
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Holy Spirit Parish

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GL. 9-6646
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St. Thomas the Apostle Parish

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St. Jude Parish

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1206 Pannell Road, N.W.
RI. 2-5194
St. Anthony Parish



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1961 Numbers Eventful Days

The year 1961 marked great changes in the lives of Mercians. Many memories will hold an important place in their hearts.

In the year 1961, John F. Kennedy was elected the first Catholic President of the United States, Laos was invaded by Communist troops from the North, the United States broke off diplomatic relations with Castro's Cuba, Doctor Thomas A. Dooley, at 34, died after giving his life to a great humanitarian effort, President Kennedy proposed a Peace Corps for the youth of the nation.

The year 1961 brought Grand Rapids the All-

America City award, new post office construction, further development of the City Renewal Planning including a new airport, and advancement on the expressway.

Mount Mercy Academy, in 1961, saw the ground-breaking ceremonies for the erection of St. Gertrude Hall, the success of Mercy Festal Nights, more seating capacity in Sacred Heart Chapel, treasured copies of the HILLTOP NEWS, and now 1961 brings the much-anticipated MERCIAN. Now as the school year draws to a close, the students' activities and the world's events become past history in the treasury of time.



